

REMARKS

Claims 1,2 4-12 and 14-29 have been examined.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 9, 11-12, 14-15, 18, 24 and 26-29 have been rejected under §103(a) based upon U.S. Patent No. 6,068,384 to Tyson et al. (the "Tyson '384 Patent") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,390,090 to Nau (the "Nau '090 Patent").

Claims 6, 7, 16 and 17 have been rejected under §103(a) based upon the Tyson '384 Patent in view of the Nau '090 Patent and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,565,239 to Rizkin.

Claims 8, 22 and 23 have been rejected under §103(a) based upon the Tyson '384 Patent in view of the Nau '090 Patent and in further view of applicant's disclosure in the specification.

Claims 10 and 25 have been rejected under §103(a) based upon the Tyson '384 Patent in view of the Nau '090 Patent and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,924,790 to Ponton (the "Ponton '790 Patent").

Claims 19-22 have been rejected under §103(a) based upon the Tyson '384 Patent in view of the Nau '090 Patent and in further view of U.S. Patent No. U.S. Patent No. 4,697,950 to Copeland.

Claims 1, 11 and 27 have been amended herein.

Claims 8, 10, 23 and 25 have been canceled.

Claims 30 and 31 have been added.

This Amendment has been prepared in accordance with the revised amendment practice as set forth in revised 37 C.F.R. §1.121 effective July 30, 2003. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Initially, Applicant's attorney thanks Examiners Cariaso and Han for the personal interview conducted on January 11, 2006 in connection with the present application. The interview provided Applicant's attorney the opportunity to demonstrate and explain Applicant's invention to the Examiners and distinguish the invention from the devices disclosed in the references relied upon by the Examiners, i.e., the Tyson '384 Patent, the Nau '090 Patent, and the Ponton '090 Patent.

As a result of the interview, Applicant's attorney and Examiners Cariaso and Han agreed on revisions to independent Claims 1 and 11 which would patentably distinguish the inventions recited therein from the art of record. However, Examiners Cariaso and Han took the position that such claim revisions would require a further search. In such circumstances, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is being filed with this Amendment.

By way of the foregoing claim amendments, the revisions agreed to by the Examiners and Applicant's attorney during the interview have been effected in independent Claims 1 and 11. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent Claims 1 and 11 are directed to inventions patentably distinguishable over the art of record, including the references relied on by the Examiners in the Office Action, i.e., the Tyson '384 Patent, Nau '090 Patent and the Ponton '790 Patent.

With respect to amended independent Claim 1, Applicant's attorney notes that the features recited in original Claim 10 have been incorporated in amended Claim 1. As a result of the foregoing amendment, Claim 1 now calls for a lighting fixture having a support member that includes "at least one cam lock tab" and a modular light assembly that includes a "cam lock." In addition, other features have been added to Claim 1. For these reasons, Claim 10 has been canceled herein. Similarly, the features recited in original Claim 25 are incorporated in amended independent Claim 11, which now calls for, among other additional features, a lighting fixture having a support member that includes "at least one cam lock tab" and a modular light assembly that includes a "cam lock." As a result, Claim 25 has been canceled herein.

With the foregoing comments in mind, the present invention, as recited in amended independent Claim 1, is directed to a lighting fixture having a support member that includes "at least one cam lock tab" and a modular light assembly that includes a "cam lock", such that the cam lock and the cam lock tab are releasably engageable with one another by turning the modular light assembly relative to the support member. There is no disclosure or suggestion in the Tyson '384 Patent, the Nau '090 Patent and/or the Ponton '790 Patent of a lighting fixture having a support member that includes "at least one cam lock tab" and a modular light assembly that includes a "cam lock", such that the cam lock and the cam lock tab are releasably engageable with one another by turning the modular light assembly relative to the support member.

In particular, the Ponton '790 Patent discloses a lamp housing assembly for a motor vehicle (i.e., a fog light), which includes a lamp housing 12 and an associated

mounting bracket 14. The lamp housing 12 includes an elongated key 20 formed on an upper surface 18 of the housing 12 and a pair of triangular-shaped, spaced-apart locking lugs 26, 28 that are positioned on a front edge 22 of the housing 12. The mounting bracket 14 includes a first portion 68 having an elongated keyway 70 and a second portion 72 having a pair of spaced-apart, flexible tongues 82, 84. The mounting bracket 14 is attached to the lamp housing 12 by sliding it linearly on the lamp housing 12. More particularly, the key 20 of the lamp housing 12 and the keyway 70 of the mounting bracket 14 engage one another such that the key 20 slides into the keyway 70 linearly. Continued sliding of the key 20 into the keyway 72 causes each of the locking lugs 26, 28 of the lamp housing 12 to engage a corresponding flexible tongue 82, 84 of the mounting bracket 14. As a result, the lamp housing 12 is secured to, and is prevented from turning relative to, the mounting bracket 14.

The Ponton '790 Patent, in combination with the Tyson '384 Patent and the Nau '090 Patent, does not disclose or make obvious the invention recited in amended independent Claim 1 of the present application. For instance, the Ponton '790 Patent does not disclose, suggest or teach a lighting fixture having a support member that includes "at least one cam lock tab" and a modular light assembly that includes a "cam lock", such that the cam lock and the cam lock tab are releasably engageable with one another by turning the modular light assembly relative to the support member. Accordingly, Applicant's attorney respectfully submits that Claim 1, as amended, is patentably distinguishable over the cited references; and, therefore, such claim is in condition for allowance.

Because Claims 2, 4-7, 9 and 28, as amended, as well as new Claim 30, depend from amended independent Claim 1, they recite subject matter which is patentably distinguishable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant's attorney respectfully submits that Claims 2, 4-7, 9, 28 and 30 are in condition for allowance.

Turning now to independent apparatus Claim 11, Applicant's attorney notes that it is directed to a combination which includes the lighting fixture as recited in the body of amended Claim 1 and the lighting fixture's associated masonry structure. Applicant's attorney respectfully submits that independent apparatus Claim 11 is patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record for the same reasons that independent Claim 1 distinguishes over such prior art. Therefore, independent Claim 11 should be in condition for allowance along with the claims depending therefrom (i.e., Claims 12, 14-22, 24, 26 and 29 and new Claim 31).

Turning now to independent method Claim 27, it has been amended to recite the same features that distinguish amended Claims 1 and 10 from the references cited by the Examiner. That is, amended method Claim 27 now calls for the step of mounting a modular light assembly to one end of a support member by turning the modular light assembly relative to the support member such that a cam lock of the modular light assembly and a cam lock tab of the support member releasably engage one another. For the same reasons discussed hereinabove with respect to amended apparatus Claims 1 and 10, amended independent Claim 27 is in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant's attorneys respectfully request reexamination and allowance of Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 11-12, 14-22,

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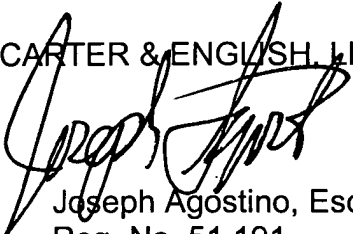
24, and 26-31. If such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is cordially invited to place a telephone call to the undersigned attorney to resolve any outstanding issue without the issuance of a further Office Action.

Also enclosed herewith is a petition for a one (1) month extension of time to and including January 21, 2006, for which a \$60.00 fee is due. Also enclosed is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal form for which a \$395.00 fee is due. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$455.00 for the petition fee and the RCE filing fee.

Applicant had previously paid for a total of 25 claims at the time of the filing of the original application. By way of the foregoing amendments, the total number of claims remains at 25. Accordingly, no additional fees are believed to be due as a result of this Amendment. If there are any additional fees due as a result of this Amendment and/or the Request for Continued Examination, including, without limitation, extension and petition fees, then the Examiner is authorized to charge them to the undersigned attorney's Deposit Account No. 503571.

Respectfully submitted,

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